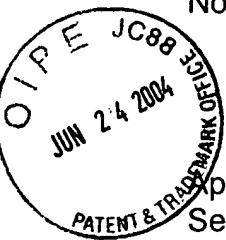


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Robert A. Holton

Art Unit 1625

Serial No. 10/673,300

Filed September 29, 2003

Confirmation No. 1509

For PREPARATION OF SUBSTITUTED ISOSERINE ESTERS USING

$\beta$ -LACTAMS AND METAL OR AMMONIUM ALKOXIDES

Examiner Ba K. Trinh

June 24, 2004

**AMENDMENT A**

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office action dated February 24, 2004, please enter the following amendments:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Conclusion** begins on page 5 of this paper.